(e) whether Government are considering to permit private sector in setting up universities in the country as the foreign private universities are already functioning; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (f) There is no database on operation of foreign universities in India. The source through which one can know is publication of advertisements. An analysis of the advertisements issued by the universities, conducted by Association of Indian Universities(AIU), show that foreign universities are operating various programmes in India. At present, permission from Government is not required for this purpose. However, there is a proposal to regulate the entry/operation of foreign universities in India.

Financial shortfalls in SSA

1122. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what were the annual financial shortfalls in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in totality and financial requirements projected by the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act; and

(b) how Government are going to meet the financial shortfall in the current year and till 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The estimated requirement for universalization of elementary education under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is around Rs. 98,000 crore for ten years, of which about Rs. 63,000 crore would be the Central share as per the funding pattern approved under SSA. This is only an estimate and the actual requirement would depand on the District Elementary Education Plans prepared for each district and the requirements projected by the State Governments in these District Plans based on habitation level planning.

The funds allocated for universalization of elementary education during Tenth Plan is Rs. 28,750 crore.